

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of :
Govil et al. :
 : Group Art Unit: 1617
Application No. 08/883,075 :
 : Examiner: E. Webman
Filed: June 26, 1997 :
 : Date: September 10, 1999
For: ADHESIVE MIXTURE FOR :
TRANSDERMAL DELIVERY OF :
HIGHLY PLASTICIZING DRUGS :
X

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Sir:

1. I, Dr. Ludwig J. Weimann, am one of the co-inventors with Dr. Sharad K. Govil of the above-identified pending U.S. patent Application No. 08/883,075, filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on June 26, 1997.

2. I am presently a consultant for Mylan Technologies, Inc., the assignee of Application No. 08/883,075, but I was employed by Mylan Technologies, Inc. and its predecessor, Bertek, Inc., for about 20 years, and was Senior Director of Research when I retired in 1998.

3. I invented the subject matter of Application No. 08/883,075, including that of claim '84 therein, with Dr. Govil, and in accordance with our invention we reduced the invention to practice prior to December 19, 1996.

4. I am familiar with the prosecution of this patent application, including the official action dated March 19, 1999. In particular, this official action includes a rejection based upon International Publication No. WO96/40085 (the '085 patent).

5. It is my understanding that the '085 patent was published on December 19, 1996, less than one year prior to the filing date of our application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

6. Dr. Govil and I completed the invention of claim 84 of our pending application in the United States before the date of publication of the '085 patent; namely, before December 19, 1996, claim 84 reading as follows:

84. A transdermal drug delivery system comprising a blend of:

- (a) one or more polymers; and
- (b) a therapeutically effective amount of one or more drugs, at least one of which is of low molecular weight and liquid at or about room temperatures, wherein said system is substantially free of water and liquids having a normal boiling point (i) below processing temperatures and (ii) equal to or greater than the normal boiling points of the low molecular weight drugs.

7. In particular, prior to December 19, 1996, we were involved in the preparation of a transdermal drug delivery system for use in connection with certain drugs having a low molecular weight, such as selegiline, and their application in a system which could be adhesively applied to the skin.

8. Prior to December 19, 1996, we thus invented and actually reduced to practice a transdermal delivery system for

selegiline which used selegiline in a transdermal patch using a non-aqueous solvent in connection with an acrylic adhesive polymer system and employing only solvents which were highly volatile, such as ethanol, which were removed during drying, but we excluded solvents that remained after drying, such as propylene glycol and the like. We thus employed the low molecular weight drug selegiline, which is a liquid at or about room temperature, along with a polymer system in which the entire system was substantially free of water, as well as liquids which had a normal boiling point below processing temperatures for the patch, and equal to or greater than the normal boiling point of the selegiline.

9. Prior to December 19, 1996, under my direct supervision and control, such selegiline patches were prepared. In particular, as shown on page 77 of Notebook No. 24 (a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, with the actual dates blanked out), Susan Honn, a laboratory chemist and myself prepared a patch identified as SEL-77C employing 30 mg selegiline, in the free base form, in a 10 cm² patch. In the three patches shown on page 77, the patches included varying percentages of the acrylic pressure-sensitive adhesive known as GELVA 1753 (Monsanto), including 32% solid content and self-cross-linkable acrylic adhesive containing a hardening monomer comprising methyl acrylate along with ethyl acetate in the amounts shown. In particular, the acrylate adhesive GELVA 1753 was mixed with the ethyl acetate and the selegiline drug was

added while mixing in order to create a homogeneous blend. A thin film of the drug/adhesive blend was then produced and applied to a release-coated plastic/paper substrate. The coating was then dried in an oven and then laminated to a backing material made of PET/PE and die-cut into patches.

10. All of the patches produced in the manner shown in Exhibit A were free of water and liquids with a normal boiling point below the processing temperature and equal to or greater than the normal boiling points of the drug utilized, and were specifically free of 1,2-propanediol as shown thereon.

11. At a subsequent date, but still prior to December 19, 1996, additional patches were prepared again using selegiline in the free base form, and in this case with and without 1,2-propanediol. These were again prepared by Susan Honn, under my direct supervision and control, and by myself. As is thus shown on pages 143 and 144 of Notebook No. 24 (copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibit B, with the dates blanked out), Examples 2 and 3 included the same GELVA 1753 (Monsanto) previously used, in combination with selegiline in free base form and ethanol. As shown in Example 3 on page 144, 1,2-propanediol was not employed, while in Example 4 it was employed. In the case of Example 3 the selegiline in the free base form was mixed with the ethanol and then added to the adhesive GELVA 1753 while mixing. In Example 4 the ethanol was added to the GELVA 1753 and the selegiline was then mixed with the 1,2-propanediol and added to the GELVA 1753 while mixing.

12. In addition, as shown on pages 152 of Notebook No. 24 (a copy of which is attached here to as Exhibit C with the dates blanked out), Robert Campbell, a lab technician, and myself conducted shear and peel tests, including those for Examples 3 and 4 from page 144. Susan Honn and myself then also calculated the coat weight for these formulations, and these are shown on page 153 of Notebook No. 24 (a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit D with the actual dates blanked out), including those from Examples 3 and 4 from page 144.

13. Again in each of these cases, all of which were actually carried out prior to December 19, 1996, transdermal patches were produced in which the drug delivery system included a pressure-sensitive adhesive comprising an acrylic polymer (one or more polymers) as well as selegiline in the free base form (a therapeutically effective amount of a drug which is a low molecular weight and a liquid at or about room temperatures) and in which systems were substantially free of water as well as liquids with a normal boiling point below the processing temperature for the patch and equal to or greater than the normal boiling points of the selegiline. These patches were actually produced and tested on dates prior to December 19, 1996.

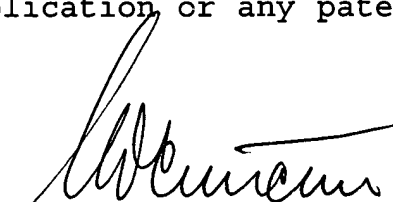
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or

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imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

9/13/99

Date



LUDWIG J. WEIMANN

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